Making good decisions for children impacted by batterers

THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES' RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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CT DV & CW TIME LINE

Prior to 1995 domestic violence is generally not considered a CPS issue

- No expectation to address domestic violence
- Very little contact with fathers
- Reflects national child welfare practice

1998: Beloy Engly

- By a man who was also abusing her mother
- Substance abuse and domestic violence present in the family

: Faicilly Review Panel Brecommends Change

- Identifies the need for new policies, training and uniform protocols for domestic violence
- Screening for domestic violence mandated (regardless of he allegations) using 1st version of dv protocol created
- New worker training increased from 5 hours to 18 hour (then eventually down to 12)
- · In-service trainings increase

CT DV & CW TIME LINE

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- Inspired by Federal Greenbook process
- State-wide and Regional summits
- Joint effort of CCADV, DCF and Juvenile Court

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- Action research to determine how to improve response to batterers
- Develop new domestic violence investigation protocol (developed in partnership with CCADV and Center for Women and Families
- Initial state-wide Area Office Consultation/Training: 1 consultant, 4 hours per month for the entire state

5) DV Consultation initiative

- January 2006-Child fatality in case focused on neglect leads to case reviews which finds up to 60% of cases involve domestic violence
- March 2006 DCF asks Governor to include money for 12.5 FTE and State-wide Service Administration
- August 1 2006-First consultant in Area Offices

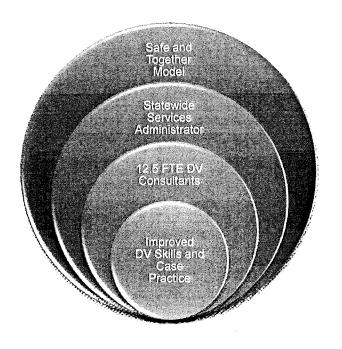
2005 to present Confining precit Improvements

- Swift and complete integration of domestic violence consultants
- State-wide role out of new domestic investigation protocol
- Improvements to preservice training
- Increase in amount and quality of in-service training
- Specialized training for supervisors
- · New Hotline protocols
- · New programming

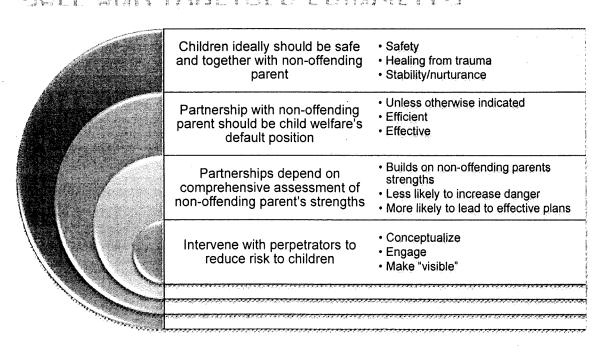
4 PILLARS OF DCF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EFFORT

- Improve competencies and practice through training and improved protocols/tools
- ★ Utilize private sector domestic violence expertise to improve practice at every level of the organization
- Develop and implement innovative contracted domestic violence services for families
- * Promote cross system collaboration

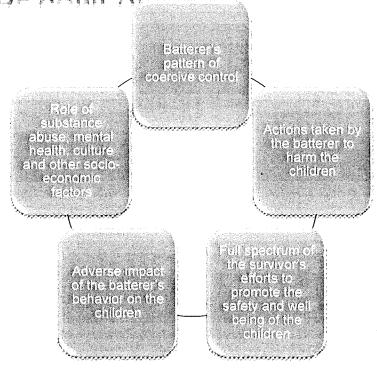
DCF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONSULTATION INITIATIVE



SAFE AND TOGETHER PRINCIPLES



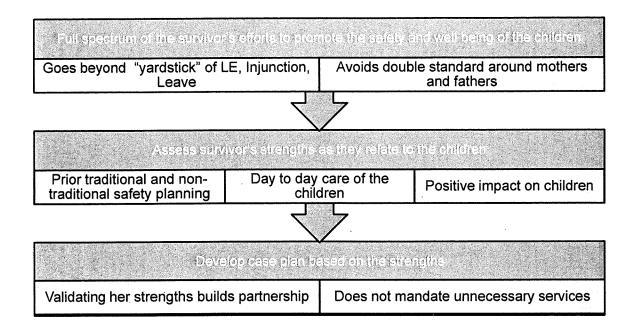
CRITICAL COMPONENTS



CONSULTATION INITIATIVE STATISTICS HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Over 7000 case consultation activities in 2008
 - + Represents over 3700 unique cases
- ★ Over 90 trainings (2008)
 - + Over 2000 DCF staff and community partners trained
 - × Over 33 trainings for DCF community partners
 - × Pilot presentation to CCADV member agencies
- Supervising domestic violence case training
 - + Over 100 supervisors/managers trained (in service)
 - + Mandatory component to all new supervisors' training

STRENGTHS BASED APPROACH TO NON-OFFENDING PARENT



CASE PRACTICE CONCEPTS WITH BATTERERS

